

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 7, insert the following heading:

FIELD AND BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 1, line 17, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, line 26 - page 4, line 3, amend the paragraph as follows:

The instrument set ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ of this invention has a guide device which is connected to the vertebral bodies concerned. It can be used to fix them in the desired relative position. It can also be used for guiding a tool for working the surfaces of the vertebral bodies. To arrange it with precision, an adjustment instrument is used which comprises an intervertebral plate. After the intervertebral disk and possibly the ventral protrusions of the upper vertebral body have been removed, it is fitted into the intervertebral space and precisely positioned. After it has been positioned, it provides an exact indication of the position of the vertebral body surfaces between which the prosthesis is to be placed. It also ensures that the vertebral bodies are at the predetermined spacing from one another. In this way, a measure for the positioning of the guide device is obtained so that, with the aid of the adjustment instrument, the guide device can be positioned exactly, i.e. with the same precision as the adjustment instrument itself. The relative position of the vertebral bodies is thus ensured, as is the positional precision of the machining tools guided by the guide device.

Page 7, line 26, insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 9, line 1, insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

~~Abstract~~ **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

~~Instrument~~ An instrument set for fitting an intervertebral prosthesis, ~~comprising~~ includes a guide device (4) for an instrument or a prosthesis part, which guide device (4) is to be secured on at least one vertebral body (2). ~~To be able~~ In order to attach the guide device (4) precisely on the vertebral bodies despite the difficult operating conditions, an adjustment instrument (10) is provided which positions the guide device when this is being arranged on the vertebral body (2). This adjustment instrument (10) ~~expediently comprises~~ may include an intervertebral plate (11) which is fitted into the intervertebral space so as to be positioned exactly in relation to the vertebral bodies. (Fig. 2)